

University of Montana

ScholarWorks at University of Montana

University of Montana News Releases, 1928,
1956-present

University Relations

3-9-1977

Employment prospects for some college graduates brightest in several years

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases>

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Recommended Citation

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations, "Employment prospects for some college graduates brightest in several years" (1977). *University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present*. 28084.

<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases/28084>

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the University Relations at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.



news

Information Services • University of Montana • Missoula, Montana 59812 • (406) 243-2522

IMMEDIATELY

hjelmseth/ds/rb

3-9-77

state + cs +

EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS FOR SOME COLLEGE
GRADUATES BRIGHTEST IN SEVERAL YEARS

MISSOULA--

No doubt about it. Employment prospects for some of this year's college graduates appear to be shaping up as the best in several years, according to Dr. Don Hjelmseth, career planning and placement director at the University of Montana in Missoula, a participating institution in the national Salary Survey conducted by the College Placement Council. However, prospects may still be limited for many graduates--particularly those in non-technical disciplines.

At the bachelor's-degree level, 49% more offers were reported than at the same point a year ago. At the master's level, volume was up 74% and at the doctoral level it was 73% higher.

Relatively speaking, the picture for women continued to brighten. At the bachelor's level, the number of salary offers to women rose 68% over last March, and this was on top of last year's 27% gain over March 1975. The volume for men went up 45%. A year ago men had experienced a 20% decrease.

Despite these gains, the proportion of women's offers to total bachelor's volume remained only 18%. Still, this was notably higher than the 11% women's ratio reported in March 1975.

"At the master's level, volume for women increased 80% over last year while men received 60% more offers," Hjelmseth said. "Women's share of total volume was 16%. Two years ago, women accounted for only 10% of the master's offers."

more

The CPC Salary Survey, now in its 17th year, is based on job offers, not acceptances, made to college students in selected curricula and graduate programs during the normal recruiting period, September to June. Data are submitted on an ongoing basis by 160 colleges and universities throughout the country. The Survey covers job offers in a broad range of functional areas, except teaching. Three reports are issued each year--in January, March and July.

All bachelor's disciplines benefitted from this year's increase in employer activity. Business disciplines rose 53% in volume, sciences were up 51% and engineering categories were 45% higher. The biggest increase was in humanities and social sciences with a 70% gain, but this was based on relatively small volume and followed a substantial drop last year.

"Business employers stepped up their recruiting the most, making 59% more offers than last March," Hjelmseth said. "Volume in the manufacturing/industrial and non-profit/educational institution groups also went up about 50%, but governmental agencies made only slightly more offers than a year ago."

Five of the 15 employer groups in the private sector boosted activity substantially. Increases of 80% or more were registered by aerospace, electronics and instruments; automotive and mechanical equipment; merchandising and services; metals and metal products, and public utilities and transportation. Fewer offers than a year ago were reported for only three types of employers--building materials manufacturers and construction; electrical machinery and equipment, and research/consulting organizations.

The scientific disciplines generally experienced gains of from 2% to 5%, with average dollar offers ranging from \$851 for the biological sciences to \$1,085 for computer science. Despite increases in volume, the humanities and social sciences dollar averages dropped slightly under last July's figures. The \$762 average for humanities was only about half the petroleum engineering average. Modest gains of 3% to 4% were reported in the business disciplines with averages ranging from \$865 for marketing and distribution to \$1,064 for accounting.

"At the master's level, the MBA disciplines and the sciences recorded the top percentage gains in volume," Hjelmseth said. "MBA volume more than doubled but the dollar averages remained at last July's levels. This, however, is customary. MBA averages normally do not advance until late in the season."

Master's in geology and related geological sciences averaged \$1,418, representing a gain of 8%, largest at the master's level.

Humanities and social sciences showed a 42% rise in offers, although with relatively small volume, but the dollar averages remained at last July's levels, with humanities at \$967 and social sciences at \$1,011.

##